energy conservation, reduction in input cost, improvement in productivity etc.

Sharing of Production Level payment on CBM with Gujarat

2991. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT:
DR. A. K. PATEL:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has represented for sharing production level payment (PLP) under Coal Bed Methane (CBM) on 50:50 basis with Government of India;

(b) whether Government have considered State Government's proposal positively;

(c) if so, the level at which matter is pending for decision at present; and

(d) by when, the formal approval will be communicated to State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Government of Gujarat has requested for sharing of Production Linked Payment (PLP) and the commercial discovery bonus in the ratio of 50:50 and their request is under the consideration of the Government of India. After the decsion is taken, the same will be communicated, for which no time limit can be fixed.

Exploration of CBM in Gujarat

2992. DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKAR DAVE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large reserve of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) have been found in Gujarat and if so, the total area in which

CBM is found and how much is the reserve in terms of quantity and in terms of value and action taken to exploit the same;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Coal Bed Methane found in Gujarat has not been exploited as the mineral rights has not been established; and

(c) the action Government are contemplating to explore and exploit CBM found in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Coal Bed Methane (CBM), being Natural Gas, is covered under provisions of the Oil (Regulation & Development) Act, 1948 and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959. The available studies indicate the presence of CBM resources in the states of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat. The commerciality of CBM production can be known only after exploration is carried out. The policy approved by the Government of India provides for exploration and exploitation of CBM throughtout the country.

Additional Payment made on Import of Crude

2993. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that additional amount had to be paid for import of crude oil due to devaluation of rupee against dollar in the country;

(b) if so, the additional amount paid by the country on the basis of value of rupee against dollar in March, 1998 and during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 separately; and

(c) the estimated additional amount likely to be paid for the import of crude oil during the current financial year?